

A NEW MUNCHAUSEN.

Remarkable Document of Gems by
W. C. COOPER.

The St. Louis *Times* has a marvellous story, which purports to come in a letter from the captain of a vessel trading between San Francisco and Valparaiso, and which describes what he witnessed in the Pacific Ocean, but in what latitude he keeps a secret to himself. The substance of the letter is as follows:—

When nearly half-way on the voyage, and at the time the earthquake took place, a fearful phenomenon presented itself. The ocean became convulsed to its mightiest depths, and a terrible wave was swept along so high that, as the captain humorously said, he thought it would have landed him in the city of Quito. The seamen were terribly frightened, but the vessel was to rights again in less than ten minutes.

The affair was a mere joke among the men, for they fancied it was one of the high tidal waves which are common in the Pacific. They continued their voyage, but towards midnight were alarmed by an extraordinary light which appeared in the heavens, and was first noticed on the larboard side, and which the ignorant and superstitious attributed to supernatural causes. The captain, who seems to be an intelligent and courageous man, steered his vessel right in the direction of the light, and just before sunrise a sight of magnificence—such as no human eye has ever rested on—met his gaze. It was no less than a group of islands formed of huge masses of solid diamond of every color, and in some places of the purest brilliancy.

The sailors fell into ecstasies, and one man, a half-breed from the Sandwich Islands, lost his senses so far that he would have thrown himself overboard if he had not been tied down. They sailed among the group the entire day, and found it to consist, on a rough calculation, at from twelve to twenty in number; but the exact number, or their relative size, there was no time to ascertain. They consist of large, white, flat rocks of crystallized shape (some places nearly transparent), which rise to a height of about one hundred and fifty feet from the water. Thick layers of various metals are imbedded into them, and the diamonds form thick layers beside these latter.

This is the general formation; but some of the smaller islands are composed nearly altogether of diamond, in which the emerald prevail.

There are agate, opaque topaz, ruby, and, indeed, diamonds of every hue; but one island, which he describes as being almost seventy miles long by fifteen wide, consists of an entirely pure emerald without any admixture of foreign substance. It was difficult to effect a landing on any of the group. At length some of the men succeeded; but the captain himself, satisfied with what he had seen, did not leave the vessel.

The men describe the interior of the island on which they landed as consisting almost entirely of mud, which is gradually coagulating under the heat of the sun. A curious thing was, that the brilliants were seen in the muddy quarters of the island, lying about like huge boulders, the smallest ones they saw being about 200 tons in weight; but there were numbers of others considerably larger. Of course there was no water or vegetation to be seen. The most curious effect the sight had on the men, both in the vessel as well as those who visited the island, was that the extraordinary brilliancy sickened their stomach, and vomiting, followed by a copious discharge from the bowels, was the consequence.

All efforts to detach portions of the diamond rock proved abortive; and it was out of the question to attempt removing any of the great brilliant boulders. They made an attempt to detach portions of rock by means of a crowbar and sledge, but it was so hard all efforts were useless, and though they had powder enough on board, they had no implements with which to drill the holes for blasting. The captain would have proceeded on his voyage to Valparaiso; but the men mutinied and obliged him to put back to Panama. He afterwards, with the consent of the crew, ran the vessel on shore on the northern coast of Colombia, and, telegraphing to the owners that she was lost, came on as far as Aspinwall, from which city he wrote to his brother in St. Louis. He desired his brother to come along at once, and bring with him the finest and best tempered implements for blasting purposes, and, if possible, a quantity of nitro-glycerine. The brother departed for New York immediately, but before going he communicated the secret to a confidential comrade, through whom the news leaked out only as late as yesterday evening. I am told that it has already reached the ears of a rich jeweller in this city, who is about to start an expedition which he purposes to carry on himself. It is more than probable that the crew of the abandoned vessel have anticipated him; and if they were lucky enough to keep their secret and fit out a small craft with whatever they required on board, are now quarrying in the diamond archipelago.

P. S.—I forgot to state that the captain writes that the entire bottom of the sea seemed as if glittering with gems for at least five miles from the islands. These will probably never be of use, for they must be huge rocks of diamond, and cannot be detached unless some better mode of blasting under water than that already practised can be invented. I forgot also, to add my conjecture that the reason the diamond rock is seen in its full purity arises from the fact that it was projected right forward from the very centre of the earth. What the captain calls white transparent flint rock is probably some formation not known as yet to geologists. This will be better understood as soon as the place is explored.

Another Shakespeare Forger.

The *Galaxy* for November has an interesting account, from the pen of Mr. Richard Grant White, of the recent detection of a notable forgery in Shakespearean literature.

In 1842 Mr. Peter Cunningham, already well known as an antiquarian, edited a volume for the Shakespeare Society, called "Extracts from the Accounts of the Revels at Court in the Reigns of Queen Elizabeth and King James I., from the original Office Book of the Masters and Yeomen." It was peculiarly interesting, as containing, on three pages of the account book for 1604 and 1605, records of the performances at the palace, "by His Majestie's players," of these plays among others:—"The Moor of Venice," "A Play of the Merry Wives of Windsor," "A play called 'Measur for Measur,'" "The Play of Errors," "A Play of Love's Labour's Lost," "Henry the Fifth," "A Play of the Merchant of Venice;" and in the margin, which professed to give the names of "the Poets who may the plates," these were said to be written by "Shaxbord." In another account—that for 1611-12—"a play called the 'Temptest,'" was recorded as having been performed on Halloweves night, and one "called ye 'Winter's Night Tayle,'" as having been presented on the 5th of November.

For twenty-five years this record has been accepted by editors and critics of Shakespeare as authority for determining the dates of these plays. But some three months ago Mr. Peter Cunningham himself, now an old man, reduced almost to idiocy by drink, brought to the British Museum for sale an old manuscript volume which contained, he said, records of great value about the early English drama, and which his friend, Mr. Collier, said was worth sixty guineas. It proved to be one of the "Revels Accounts" which contained the

record of the performances of nine plays by Mr. "Shaxbord." The volume was retained for examination, and was found to be public property. The experts of the Audit Office at once discovered that, although the book was genuine, the leaves containing the records of what he witnessed in the Pacific Ocean, but in what latitude he keeps a secret to himself. The substance of the letter is as follows:—

It is now believed that they were forged by Mr. Cunningham himself, who unquestionably published the book in his younger days.

The chief result of this discovery is that the date of the composition of "Measure for Measure" is found to be without external evidence to fix it; and the critics may go to work to divine the date and age of Shakespeare's brain when it was written, with no prospect of any such delightful harmony on this point as they have enjoyed of late in accepting the date fixed for it by a forger.

POLITICAL.

The Detroit Post perpetrates the following:

I shall catch a most terrible fall,
When I am down, and Clemen Seymour preparing a jump;
With his heart and his soul in a camp;
For the timber is breaking.
A man is dead, and Clemen Seymour is going,
And it won't do for two, Mr. Blair;
So I'll leave it to you, Mr. Blair;

The Cincinnati Gazette has a capital photo of the Tilden-Benton & Co.'s separation after the October elections:—"We are not public stockholders." It represents the Democratic platform splintered in pieces by locked lightning strokes from the sky. Oho! Oho! Indiana! Indiana! The gloom of the August Belmont is "making tracks" carrying in his hand a carpet-bag, on which "For Europe" is stamped.

Some of the Rebel Democrats are becoming wiser by bitter experience. The Knoxville *Press* says they may be compelled to keep an "internal fire" for their duds in the October elections, and that, had they possessed any sense at all, or known how to hold their tongues, like Grant, the Democrats would have swept all four States.

The Baltimore American says Mr. J. P. Kennedy is hardly a Republican recruit. He is a Radical, a Free Soil, a reformer, and one of the most courageous, and audacious in place in the ranks.

Another address from the Southern Rebel Generals respecting the condition and wishes of the South is promised. There is no time for power now. The motto or our leader is—Unconditional surrender!

The rebels attending the Rock River (Ill.) Conference the other day, there was not one so poor as to do Seymour reverence. All went in for Grant.

The Boston Journal recommends that Mr. John Quincy Adams be made an honorary member of the Republican party for his speeches at the South:

The Toledo Commercial says Mr. Hong, the successful opponent of Mr. Ashley, is a War Democrat, and not much of a Copperhead.

At the November elections, the people of Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri will vote for (or against) negro suffrage.

The men describe the interior of the island on which they landed as consisting almost entirely of mud, which is gradually coagulating under the heat of the sun. A curious thing was, that the brilliants were seen in the muddy quarters of the island, lying about like huge boulders, the smallest ones they saw being about 200 tons in weight; but there were numbers of others considerably larger. Of course there was no water or vegetation to be seen. The most curious effect the sight had on the men, both in the vessel as well as those who visited the island, was that the extraordinary brilliancy sickened their stomach, and vomiting, followed by a copious discharge from the bowels, was the consequence.

All efforts to detach portions of the diamond rock proved abortive; and it was out of the question to attempt removing any of the great brilliant boulders. They made an attempt to detach portions of rock by means of a crowbar and sledge, but it was so hard all efforts were useless, and though they had powder enough on board, they had no implements with which to drill the holes for blasting. The captain would have proceeded on his voyage to Valparaiso; but the men mutinied and obliged him to put back to Panama. He afterwards, with the consent of the crew, ran the vessel on shore on the northern coast of Colombia, and, telegraphing to the owners that she was lost, came on as far as Aspinwall, from which city he wrote to his brother in St. Louis. He desired his brother to come along at once, and bring with him the finest and best tempered implements for blasting purposes, and, if possible, a quantity of nitro-glycerine. The brother departed for New York immediately, but before going he communicated the secret to a confidential comrade, through whom the news leaked out only as late as yesterday evening. I am told that it has already reached the ears of a rich jeweller in this city, who is about to start an expedition which he purposes to carry on himself. It is more than probable that the crew of the abandoned vessel have anticipated him; and if they were lucky enough to keep their secret and fit out a small craft with whatever they required on board, are now quarrying in the diamond archipelago.

H. S. K. G.

Harris' Seamless Kid Gloves.

EVENY PAIR WARRANTED.

EXCLUSIVE AGENTS FOR GENTS' GLOVES.

J. W. SCOTT & CO.,
No. 514 CHESTNUT STREET,

PATENT SHOULDR-E-SEAM

SHIRT MANUFACTORY,

AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE.

FACTORY FITTING SHIRTS AND DRAWERS
Made to your measurement at very short notice.

All other articles of GENTLEMEN'S DRESS

GLOBS in full variety.

WINCHSTER & CO.,

No. 70 CHESTNUT Street,

102 1st DEPT.

DEPUTY QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

BREVET BRIGADIER-GENERAL U. S. A.

LARGE SALE OF BLANKETS,

DEPOT QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,

Washington, D. C., Oct. 26, 1868.

Will be sold at Public Auction, at Clothing Depot, at 10 A. M., under the supervision of Captain D. G. Thomas, M. S. A., quantity of Clothing, Camp, & Garrison Equipment, unfit for issue, and Army Blankets, etc., mounted as follows:—

2000 Blankets.

2000 Blanket Ticks.

50,000 pairs Woolen Socks.

5000 pairs Linen Socks.

The above articles will be sold lots, to suit both large and small purchasers.

Remaining Funds.

Five (5) days will be allowed to parties purchasing to remove their property.

If goods are not all sold on the day advertised, the sale will be continued on.

C. H. ELLES SUTHERLAND,

Asst. Med. Purveyor, Bvt. Col. U. S. A.

1868.—FOR NEW YORK.—THE CAMDEN AND TRENTON RAILROAD COMPANY, FROM PHILADELPHIA TO NEW YORK, AND WAY PLACES, FROM WALNUT STREET.

Leave Philadelphia at 7:30 A. M., 10:30 A. M., 1 P. M., and 2 P. M. Trains make direct connection with Lehigh Valley and Lehigh and Susquehanna, and all points in New Jersey and Wyoming Coal Regions.

At 1:30 P. M.—Accommodation for Doylestown, New Hope, and Philadelphia.

At 4:30 P. M.—Accommodation for Bethlehem, Easton, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, and Wilkes-Barre.

At 5:30 P. M.—Accommodation for Phillipsburg, and all stations on main line of North Pennsylvania Railroad.

At 6:30 P. M.—Accommodation for Reading, Lehigh Valley, and Susquehanna Express for Scranton, and all points in New Jersey and Wyoming Coal Regions.

At 7:30 P. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 8:30 P. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 9:30 P. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 10:30 P. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 11:30 P. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 12:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 1:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 2:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 3:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 4:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 5:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 6:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 7:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 8:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 9:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 10:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 11:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 12:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 1:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 2:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 3:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 4:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 5:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 6:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 7:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 8:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 9:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 10:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 11:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 12:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 1:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 2:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 3:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 4:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 5:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 6:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch Chunk.

At 7:30 A. M.—Accommodation for Allentown, Bethlehem, and Mauch